

# Kansas Environmental News



July, 2002



## Secretary's Corner

*Clyde D. Graeber*

This year's annual Kansas Environmental Conference will be held August 27-28, 2002 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Topeka. Twyla Dell, founder of the Foresight Institute, will give the keynote address. Dell is the author of "The Corporate Environmental Leader" and is currently working on a new book "Making Money in the New Economy: Success Stories of Environmental Entrepreneurs." Foresight Institute is an environmental education and research firm dedicated to creating business climates in which economy and ecology are balanced.

The conference will feature programs for businesses, community leaders, extension agents, consultants, attorneys and others interested in the environment. The featured topics of discussion will include water issues, air quality, emerging alternative energy technologies, community programs, environmental management systems, pollution prevention case studies, regulatory information, and how environmental issues affect institutions. KDHE bureau directors will provide an update of new, pending or proposed environmental regulations. Pollution prevention awards will be presented as recognition for companies or organizations who have made outstanding efforts to stop pollution before it can occur. Exhibitors of environmental services and products are also a part of this conference.

I encourage you to attend this conference. It is your opportunity to be informed on new or changing requirements from the Division of Environment. The conference agenda and registration information is available on the KDHE Web site at [www.kdhe.state.ks.us/befs/sbcs.htm](http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/befs/sbcs.htm). For more information, call KDHE at 785-296-6603.

## Solid Waste Recycling & Composting Grants Awarded

Round #11 of the solid waste plan implementation grant program for projects related to recycling, composting, and other waste reduction efforts were recently announced by KDHE and the governor's office. Grant awards to 38 applicants totaled \$1.55 million, the largest single round since the initiation of the program in 1996. With these awards, the total amount of grants under this program now exceeds \$12 million.

Hundreds of city, county, private sector, and non-profit organizations have benefited from this popular state grant program. Many small to medium-sized communities in Kansas would not have recycling or composting programs if not for the initial financial assistance provided by a grant. The funds used to support this grant program have come from the state's \$1 per ton landfill tipping fee.

The Round #11 grants included a wide variety of projects in 30 counties. The largest grant award was \$120,000 to the Thomas County Conservation District for equipment to enhance their growing regional recycling hub. The smallest award was \$4,050 to the City of Larned for recycling bins

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and a glass crusher for their existing recycling program. Several grants were awarded to support other regional programs including central hub activities and the collection and consolidation of recyclables from participating surrounding counties. The regional partnerships which have developed over the past few years are of great value in improving the efficiency and sustainability of recycling operation which often struggle economically. Cities and counties working together, often with private entities, are more likely to survive difficult times than if they had worked alone.

Of the 38 grant awards, 10 were for composting or wood waste processing, 1 was for public education, and the remaining 27 were for recycling projects. Some of the more significant and unique awards include: \$100,000 to the City of Wichita for a horizontal grinder to recycle C & D waste; \$80,000 to Seward County to operate a composting facility which will process all of the county's yard waste and certain beef packing plant wastes; \$75,000 to Wood Recycle and Compost Center in Wichita to purchase equipment to allow contaminant separation and increased composting of organic materials like school food waste which is commonly contaminated with plastic; \$25,000 to Bert & Wetta Sales in Larned for equipment to convert wood waste to energy to be used in industrial operations; and \$20,000 to Northeast Kansas Educational Service Center to develop an outdoor environmental classroom at Lake Perry.

The future of this highly successful grant program is in jeopardy due to statewide tax revenue shortfalls. Due to this problem, the Kansas Legislature decided that it was necessary to transfer funds from waste program fund balances to help cover reduced tax revenues. In the state fiscal year that just ended on June 30, about \$2 million was transferred from the solid waste fund to help cover department reductions in state general fund appropriations. Ongoing additional transfers of over \$1 million per year are also expected. It is possible that the decision to use solid waste tipping fees to support general state budget shortfall could reduce or eliminate future grant rounds.

If you would like a complete listing of the grants awarded in Round # 11, please contact Jim Rudeen, Chief, Waste Reduction, Planning & Outreach Section at (785) 296-1612 or [jrudeen@kdhe.state.ks.us](mailto:jrudeen@kdhe.state.ks.us).  
*Bill Bider, Bureau of Waste Management*

## **Kansas Streamlink Program**

The Kansas StreamLink Program will mark the start of its fifth year with an evening of celebration at a Blue Tie Social in Emporia, September 13<sup>th</sup>. The next day, StreamLink will be back in the creek training a new round of team leaders to join the growing numbers of stream teams across Kansas.

Through this program, young and young-at-heart Kansans are scrambling over stream banks and sliding down to trickles of creeks and flowing streams. They're exploring for the tiniest of tiny stream critters, and learning about water quality. Along the way they build a relationship with their local water resources and begin to consider means to protect and restore their streams.

You are cordially invited to visit the StreamLink website ([www.streamlink.org](http://www.streamlink.org)) to find out what's going on in your watershed. Teachers, youth group leaders, civic group leaders, water quality professionals, and enthusiastic citizens extraordinaire are all welcome to take part in this fun, hands-on program.

StreamLink and its hardy group of facilitator volunteers provides technical field support, equipment, and educational support for individual stream teams and for teams working within the framework of an affiliating stream monitoring program. To date, Kansas has roughly 150 stream teams across 46 counties. In the past year, stream team volunteers spent over 15,500 hours learning about their stream, working to protect or restore their stream, and sharing their love of Kansas' streams with their communities.

The Kansas StreamLink Program is a statewide project of the Kaw Valley Heritage Alliance. The program is partially underwritten by the Kansas Department of Health & Environment through the Clean Water Act Section 319 funds, and by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

For more information, please contact Alison Reber, StreamLink Program Manager, at 785-840-0700 or email at [streamlink@kvha.org](mailto:streamlink@kvha.org).

*Jaime Ziesenis, Bureau of Water*

**KDHE REGULATIONS IN PROCESS**

update 10/07/02

REGULATION	DIV. DRAFT	EPA REVIEW	DOA REVIEW	AG REVIEW	PUBLIC HEARING	EFFECTIVE
<b>Waste Management</b>						
Haz.WasteUpdate(A)	7/01	7/01	4/02	4/02	7/02	09/02
Special Waste	6/02	N/A	*10/02	*11/02	*1/03	*3/03
Permits	*10/02	*11/02	*11/02	*12/02	*2/03	*4/03
SWPlanning(A)	*10/02	N/A	*11/02	*12/02	*2/03	*4/03
ConstructionDemo(N)	*10/02	N/A	*11/02	*12/02	*2/03	*4/03
Groundwater	*1/03	*2/03	*2/03	*3/03	*5/03	*7/03
ConstructionQualityAssurance	*3/03	N/A	*4/03	*5/03	*7/03	*9/03
Vertical Expansion (A)	*5/03	N/A	*6/03	*7/03	*9/03	*11/03
Medical Waste	*7/03	N/A	*8/03	*9/03	*11/03	*1/04
<b>Air and Radiation:</b>						
50%Permit-by-Rule(A)	3/02		3/02	4/02	07/23/02	*9/02
AcidRainPermits(A)	*4/02		*9/02	*9/02	*11/02	*1/03
Acid Rain NOx(N)	*4/02		*9/02	*9/02	*11/02	*1/03
Opacity Rule(A)	*10/02		*11/02	*11/02	*2/03	*3/03
UpdateStds(NSPS,MA)	*8/02		*9/02	*9/02	*11/02	*12/02
MSWLF EG Rules (A)	*11/02		*12/02	*12/02	*3/03	*4/03
Solvent Metal Cleaning(A)	2/02		3/02	3/02	*5/21/02	8/31/02
Consolidated Air Rule (N)	*10/02		*11/02	*11/02	*2/03	*3/03
Definitions (A)	*9/02		*10/02	*10/02	*1/03	*2/03
PSD Rules (R)(N)	3/02		3/03	4/02	07/23/02	*9/02
<b>Water</b>						
SurfaceWaterQualityStds(A)	12/01	*9/02	12/01	12/01	9/4,5,10/02	*12/02
Nat. Gas Liquid Pet. Storage	7/02	NA	8/02	8/02	10/02	*1/03
<b>Public Water Supply</b>						
Lead Copper Minor Revisions	7/02	NA	8/02	8/02	9/02	*11/03
Consumer Confidence Report	7/02	NA	8/02	8/02	9/02	*11/03
Public Notification	7/02	NA	8/02	8/02	9/02	*11/03

New(N), Amended(A), Revoked(R)

\* denotes projected date

**New Septic Tank Standards for Kansas**

If you install or are thinking about installing a new septic tank, we would like you to know that on July 1, 2002, new septic tank design and construction standards for Kansas became effective. These standards were actually established in March 1997 to provide manufacturers a five year implementation time frame. The design and construction standards are found in *Bulletin 4-2, Minimum Standards for Design and Construction of Onsite Wastewater Systems*, March 1997. This document may be obtained from the KDHE web site <http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/nps/resources/mf2214.pdf>. KDHE's web site <http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/nps/resources/septicTank.pdf> also has a list of manufacturers which have provided KDHE a statement from a professional engineer that manufacturer's septic tank meets these standards. After July 1, 2002 only tanks produced by manufacturers on this list may be permitted for installation in Kansas. Please direct questions to Don Snethen 785-296-4195, [dsnethen@kdhe.state.ks.us](mailto:dsnethen@kdhe.state.ks.us)

## **Little Blue River Streambank Stabilization & Riparian Restoration Project**

Over the past forty years, soil conservation practices focused on installing terrace and waterways to prevent erosion from agricultural fields. In spite of forty years of implementation, sediment is a common nonpoint source pollutant, not only in Kansas, but the nation. Streambank erosion is a significant source of sediment. The Little Blue River soil loss figures from 1977 to 2001 indicate thirteen sites contributed over 11,000,000 tons of sediment; 56,000 pounds nitrogen, 327,000 pounds phosphorus and 2,538,000 pounds potassium. Early efforts to address streambank erosion applied band-aids shot-gunned over various watersheds. Nevertheless, these projects provided a valuable learning curve for streambank stabilization techniques. Experience and technology have evolved to the point of tackling streambank erosion on the watershed scale, rather than a widespread basis.

The little Blue project stabilized 6,787 feet, or 1.2 miles of eroding streambank on the Little Blue River in Washington County, Kansas. Bendway weirs, in conjunction with bank-shaping were employed to stabilize the sites and reduce sediment and nutrient deposition. One hundred foot riparian buffer and grass filter strips were established at each site, resulting in 19.5 acres of riparian restoration. 16,900 trees were planted to establish riparian buffers. All the sites, except one, were farmed to the edge of the streambank.

Project installation has generated a great deal of interest for additional projects in the watershed. Twenty-five landowners with 27 sites, comprising nearly seven miles of stream, have expressed interest in project implementation. All of the landowners currently crop to the edge of the streambank and are experiencing extreme rates of erosion. In addition to stabilizing eight miles of stream, installation of 100' riparian buffers and grass filters help restore an additional 60 acres of riparian area. Funding of this project is through the Clean Water Act Section 319, the Kansas State Conservation Commission, and the National Wild Turkey Federation.

For additional information about streambank stabilization and riparian restoration contact Rick Davis, Watershed Management Section, 785-296-8037.

## **Cleaning the Air in National Parks**

Historically, air pollution control programs evaluated air pollution on a county, multi-county or statewide basis. Bureau of Air and Radiation staff are frequently called upon to evaluate air pollution issues on a regional or national basis. Pollutants such as ozone and fine particulate matter or their precursors can travel in the atmosphere for long distances, affecting people and the environment far removed from their origin. One example of the Bureau's regional approach to resolving air pollution is participation in a multi-state group formed to address regional haze caused by fine particulate matter.

The Bureau represents the State of Kansas as a member of the Central States Regional Air Planning Association (CENRAP). The association has been established in response to a federal program to reduce visibility impairment in areas such as National Parks and Wilderness Areas. Kansas is working jointly with neighboring states to provide for the placement of additional monitors; develop a shared emission inventory; and, to conduct modeling to help identify strategies that will reduce the haze. These strategies will be incorporated into a State Implementation Plan (SIP) to be filed with the EPA.

The Bureau is currently completing installation of new monitors that collect data regarding the chemical make up of fine particles in the air. Monitors will be installed at Cedar Bluff State Park and the Tall Grass National Monument in the Flint Hills. The monitoring data from these and other sites will be used to ensure the computer models are accurately predicting pollutant constituents and concentrations.

Bureau staff are also working with other members of CENRAP to determine what emission inventory information will be required for input into the model. The monitoring, emission inventory, and modeling activities will take place over the next two to three years. The final step will be to determine appropriate strategies for pollution control and incorporate them into a SIP for submission to EPA. It is expected that the joint effort underway to address the regional haze issue will serve as a model for addressing future air pollution problems that cross state and international borders.

*Tom Gross, Bureau of Air and Radiation*

## **KDHE Helps Battle the Meth Epidemic**

Methamphetamine (Meth) is an illegal and highly addictive drug produced in clandestine laboratories using readily available products obtained from retail, convenience, and grocery stores. Over the counter cold and allergy medicines containing pseudoephedrine or ephedrine are the most critical ingredients in meth production. The manufacturing process also uses precursors such as lithium batteries, acetone, starter fluid, drain cleaner, rock salt, lye, matchbooks, rubbing alcohol, muriatic acid and iodine all of which are readily available. Clandestine labs are found in all parts of our state, rural and urban settings. In 2001 the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI), local law enforcement agencies and the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) seized 841 meth labs in Kansas. Of these 841 labs, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) provided cleanup at 232 labs. As of July 2002, KDHE has already cleaned up for 168 labs during 2002. Many of the seizures are classified as abandoned labs or meth trash dump sites and have contaminated soil, surface water and or groundwater.

In a response to impede the meth epidemic, the Chemical Control Act (CCA) became law on July 1, 1999. The training, education, notification, and cleanup portions of the CCA are the responsibility of the Response Unit in the Bureau of Environmental Remediation (BER). Some of the responsibilities for the implementation of the CCA are: notification requirements for manufacturers, distributors, and retailers of certain chemicals used in the production of meth; establishment of meth clean up guidelines; education about the harmful effects of meth, and; the actual cleanup of clandestine meth labs. KDHE personnel have already provided educational material and training to first responders and chance encounter occupation personnel (i.e. fire fighters, police, social workers and road workers). One of the latest task has been to expand our cleanup program to all local law enforcement agencies. Most of the clean up work is performed by an environmental response contractor with KDHE oversight. The contractor can respond 24 hours a day / 7 days a week to remove the hazardous substances and contaminated media. These responses

are necessary to insure human health and the environment are protected from the harmful chemicals used at the clandestine laboratories.

Another initiative of the Meth Program is the Kansas "Meth Watch" Program for retailers. The Meth Watch program is designed to deter production of meth by limiting the accessibility of products containing pseudoephedrine and ephedrine to the person making meth. The program is simple. Materials sporting the Meth Watch logo are supplied by KDHE to the local retailer. The material supplied includes signage to be placed near products used in meth production. The individuals purchasing or stealing products for illegal purposes are paranoid about getting caught. The Meth Watch shelf tags, door decals and register stickers are designed to create an even more uncomfortable shopping environment for those individuals. Retailer packets include: a Suspicious Transaction Report for the employee to fill out and give to law enforcement; a poster for employee break room which illustrates all the precursor products, and; informational tear offs for customers interested in the Meth Watch Program. A Meth Watch retail employee training video is also provided for educating store managers and employees on techniques to limit the accessibility of precursor chemicals. Meth Watch contributes to the cooperative effort between KDHE, KBI, local law enforcement and the Kansas retailers. One retailer has tracked the monetary loss of pseudoephedrine containing drugs over the course of a year. In July of 2001 the Meth Watch program was implemented within the company. This company went from losing almost \$3000 a month in product to just below \$130 a month, a reduction of product loss of almost 96%! It is clear the Meth Watch presence in a store can have a positive effect on decreasing the amount of monetary loss for the store and in turn provides a safer place to shop for the normal consumer.

This year the KDHE's Response Unit remains focused on community education efforts, the Meth Watch program to limit meth production, and responding to law enforcement's request provide cleanups at clandestine laboratories. Cooperation between Kansas retailers, law enforcement and KDHE's Meth Cleanup Program is a community answer to a community problem.

*Kathleen Waters, Bureau of Environmental Remediation*

## Remedial Efforts Prove Effective at Former Dry Cleaning Facility

Site investigations were prompted by the detection of low concentrations of tetrachloroethene (PCE) in public water supply (PWS) well #18 in Garden City. PCE is a solvent used in the dry cleaning process. The investigations identified the former Garden City Laundry as the potential source of the contaminant. Past operating practices resulted in the release of PCE or PCE impacted wastewater into the environment. The PWS well is approximately 1,500 ft down-gradient of the site.

Site geology generally consists of silty sand or sandy silt that overlies sand and gravel. Clay underlies the sand and gravel material. The depth to water in this area is relatively shallow at approximately 19 feet below ground surface and is encountered within the sand and gravel material. These hydrogeological conditions are conducive to a suite of remedial technologies.

In August 1998, a remedial system was installed down-gradient (east-southeast) of the source area. The system was designed to impede the migration of the contaminants toward the PWS well. The selected remedial technology installed approximately 750 ft down-gradient of the site was a KVA C-Sparger™ system. This system utilizes ozone injection in association with air sparge technology. PCE impacted groundwater immediately up-gradient of this remedial system was reduced from a maximum concentration of 18 micrograms per liter (ug/l) to 1.4 ug/l.

In April 1999, a 72-hour Soil Vapor Extraction/Air Sparge (SVE/AS) pilot test was conducted within the source area of the site. AS technology injects air into the aquifer to promote the stripping of contaminants from the groundwater. The SVE technology applies a vacuum to the unsaturated zone to remove volatile organic compound (VOC) vapors. The tests indicated that this technology would be effective in removing PCE from impacted soil and groundwater. An SVE/AS system installation was initiated at the site in July 2000. The system was fully operational in October 2000. Each of the three SVE wells has removed in excess of 250 lbs of VOCs from the soil. The level of PCE in the ground-

water has been reduced from a maximum concentration of 48 ug/l to non-detectable levels.

The remedial systems to date have reduced the concentrations of chlorinated solvents in the groundwater to levels that are below the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) and many results are non-detect. Therefore, each system was shut down in June 2002. Groundwater will be monitored for a period of at least one year. Should the concentrations of chlorinated solvents rebound above the MCLs, the systems will be turned on.

*Dan Nicoski, Bureau of Environmental Remediation*



## The Hazardous Waste Regulations are Changing

The Kansas Administrative Regulations (K.A.R.) addressing hazardous waste management were last updated in 1999 and at that time KDHE adopted most of the federal hazardous waste regulations found in 40 CFR Parts 260 through 279 as in effect on July 1, 1996. KDHE has been working on an update to these regulations and several of the changes may affect you. The revised regulations will adopt new rules and changes made in the federal hazardous waste regulations between July 1, 1996 and July 1, 2000. Another significant change will result in payment of a \$100 annual fee by each "Kansas Generator" to help offset the department's costs in monitoring these businesses.

KDHE has drafted revisions to the K.A.R.'s 28-31-1 through 28-31-16. A public hearing on the proposed changes was held on July 10 in Topeka. It is anticipated that the revised regulations will become effective some time during August or September, 2002.

If you would like more information about the Kansas hazardous waste regulations, please feel free to contact us at 785-296-1600. We will be glad to help you better understand the requirements applicable to your situation.

*John Mitchell, Bureau of Waste Management*

## **Watershed Specialists Deployed in Kansas to Facilitate Implementing Total Maximum Daily Loads**

A 1998 consent decree between the Kansas Natural Resources Council, Sierra Club and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency established a schedule for developing total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) in each of Kansas' 12 river basins by 2006. While TMDL development is important, implementation of water pollution control measures actually impacts the quality of Kansas' lakes and streams.

The majority of Kansas' TMDLs result from fecal coliform bacteria levels. The major sources of bacteria include stormwater runoff, un-disinfected municipal wastewater effluent and failing on-site wastewater treatment systems. Urban areas will also suffer occasional discharges of untreated wastewater from sanitary sewer overflows due to infiltration and inflow as well as construction accidents.

To help address nonpoint sources of fecal coliform bacteria, a consortium of 22 state, federal and local agencies and private sector organizations recognized a need for an individual who could help individual farmers and property owners identify water quality protection needs and secure the resources to implement these needs. The group envisioned an individual known as a "watershed specialist" who would:

- assist local organizations develop capacity to develop and implement water quality protection strategies
- use demonstration sites, tours, public meeting, and individual contacts, build public awareness of local water quality and TMDL issues
- assist watershed stakeholders identify water quality protection needs and prioritize implementation actions
- encourage livestock producers, farmers, individual home owners and local governments to implement water quality protection measures addressing livestock waste, nutrient and pesticide use, soil erosion and riparian areas
- help evaluate progress and assess effectiveness of the water quality protection program.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment has supported this effort by securing the Clean Water Act Section 319 nonpoint source pollution control grant funds from the United States Environmental Protection Agency to cover 60 percent of the total cost of the program. The 40 percent non-federal funds are provided by the State Conservation Commission, Kansas Department of Agriculture and K-State Research and Extension. KDHE is committed to providing Section 319 grant support for at least five years.

In late 2000, six specialists were recruited and deployed. In 2002 a seventh specialist was added. Each specialist was assigned to a priority watershed. Six are employees of K-State Research and Extension and one is an employee of the U.S.D.A Natural Resources Service.

The watershed priority areas and specialists are:

Ron Graber, Lower Arkansas Watershed, Hutchinson, 620-663-5491, [rgraber@oznet.ksu.edu](mailto:rgraber@oznet.ksu.edu).  
Milton Krainbill, Upper Delaware Watershed, Holton, 785-364-4125, [mkrainbi@oznet.ksu.edu](mailto:mkrainbi@oznet.ksu.edu).  
Doug Musick, Lower Kansas Watershed, Lawrence, 785-832-6663, [dmusick@oznet.ksu.edu](mailto:dmusick@oznet.ksu.edu).  
Robert Frisbie, Upper Arkansas Watershed, Kinsley, 620-659-2149, [rfrisbie@oznet.ksu.edu](mailto:rfrisbie@oznet.ksu.edu).  
Mike Christian, Lower Blue Watershed, Manhattan, 785-532-5833, [mchristi@oznet.ksu.edu](mailto:mchristi@oznet.ksu.edu).  
Eowyn Floyd, Middle Arkansas Watershed, Hutchinson, 620-663-3501, [eowyn.floyd@ks.usda.gov](mailto:eowyn.floyd@ks.usda.gov).  
Herschel George, Lower Maris des Cygnes - Hillsdale, Paola, 913-294-4306, [hgeorge@oznet.ksu.edu](mailto:hgeorge@oznet.ksu.edu).

Feel free to contact the specialist near you for more information about water quality protection opportunities and activities in your area. You may also contact Don Snethen at KDHE - 785-296-5567, [dsnethen@kdhe.state.ks.us](mailto:dsnethen@kdhe.state.ks.us) or Bill Hargrove at KSU 785-532-7103, [bhargrov@oznet.ksu.edu](mailto:bhargrov@oznet.ksu.edu)

*Don Snethen, Bureau of Water*

**Be sure to attend this year's Environmental Conference,  
Kansas Environment: Focus on the Future  
August 27-28, 2002  
Capitol Plaza Hotel, Topeka, Kansas  
[www.kdhe.state.ks.us/befs/sbcs.htm](http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/befs/sbcs.htm)**

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